

## NEW MODES PRETTY

Yet Paris Sends Rumors of Strange Attire to Come.

## HAREM SKIRTS NOT SO BAD

Some Versions Called Quiet and Unobtrusive.

Dress Models Indicate That It Will Be Possible to Be Conservative and Chic in Dress at the Same Time This Spring—Variety in the Spring Tailor Made—A Pronounced Revulsion in Favor of Brighter Colors Said to Be Coming—Black and White Still Popular—Checks and Stripes—The Bolero F. Likely to Be Much Worn Again.

French fashion critics predict a season of fantastic extremes and extravagances, and one hears rumors of all kinds of weird innovations and developments contemplated by the fashion powers that be, but certainly the models sent over here so far are not in any way alarming. On the contrary, it has been a long time



WHITE NET AND LACE.

since so many attractive and possible frocks have been offered to early buyers.

Even the versions of the harem skirt displayed have a reputable air and look rather more suited to conservative Occidental matrons than to the harem inmates of tradition. Indeed one hears from Paris that the trousers skirts concerning which so much has been said and which have been worn by mannequins at certain public gatherings were not novel enough to waken more than a mere ripple of interest among the onlookers. Com-



FINE WHITE SERGE.

pared with the Directoire skirt in its first extravagant manifestations the harem skirt was a quiet and unobtrusive garment, and something very spectacular indeed is needed if Paris is to be excited over it.

Aside from this and the gradually increasing vogue of the uncorseted figure nothing very radical has appeared on the fashion horizon. The winter has had its classic and Oriental fantasies. The spring and summer will undoubtedly have theirs, but unless present signs fail



BLACK AND WHITE LINEN.



THREE LIGHT WOOL SUITS WITH SHORT JACKETS.

It is going to be possible to be extremely chic and fastidiously conservative at one and the same time.

The tailor modes and the dressy coat and frock costumes which are appearing show considerable variety, though among the plainer tailor modes there is a monotonous similarity in line. The short, loose coat of hip length and the short straight skirt ranging from two to two and a half yards in width are the usual things, but of course trimming details do give the models individuality, and occasionally one sees a definite departure from the rule.

Short waisted back effects are common among the coats, the line being usually defined by trimming rather than by a distinctly short waisted cut, and sometimes the front too shows the shortened waist line.

The fine twill serges in dark blue are dominant, as they always are in the spring, and one of the deepest of these blues, raven, for example, trimmed in black



WHITE SERGE.

braids and perhaps a little black satin or moiré, is as smart and serviceable as a first street frock as one can choose. Finely woven firm woollens in black with hair lines of white and just a trace of lustre in their surfaces are being made up into exceedingly good looking suits of the more severe tailored character, and these materials at their best are easily differentiated from the cheap black and white stripe woollens with which the man-

ufacturers of moderate priced ready made tailored models are doing so much.

A dark blue striped in white hairlines is liked too, and black serges of very fine twill and high quality are being used more than they usually are for spring trotting suits. Some very good looking models in black serge are enlivened by big soft draped revers and sailor collars of striped black and white silk, the lustrous black ground with hair line or very narrow white stripe being rather more chic than the black and white broader alternating stripes which threaten to be acutely painful.

Some of the most charming of these white and black muslin, etamine, voile and chiffon frocks are almost entirely without trimming save such as is supplied by the material itself used in transverse bands, panels, yokes, &c. A dash of color may be applied in narrow piping band around the neck and sleeves and in the buttons, or in a girdle or a gay chiffon collar.

One pretty white and black striped chiffon had bordering hems of chiffon in a deep vivid blue. Another white and black stripe in a very soft sheer cotton of some kind had a striking border design of ruffles and was girdled about the high waistline band, a four inch band of pansy purple velvet tied in a square, flat bow in front.

A good looking black and white linen, which our artist has sketched, had its yoke braided or embroidered in black and white cord, with a touch of vivid cerise embroidered in the centre of each of the little trefolds with which the cord ends were finished.

Black and white woollens are almost as numerous as black and white cottons. Perhaps one ought rather to say white and black woollens, for reference is made to the materials in which white plays the



WHITE SERGE.

more important rôle. Serges, chevilles and all kinds of fine white woollens, loosely or closely woven but always wonderfully supple, have touches of black in their designs.

Some good results are obtained with a black dot design in this class of goods, the small dot being rather newer than the stripe. Then there are stripes of all kinds, some of them in raised cords, some in which the stripe on close examination proves to be not an unbroken line but forms of tiny squares set together, corner to corner. These designs and countless others appear too in the black woollens striped with white which make such smart suits.

Checks of all sizes and regular or broken

Long coats have not been driven to the wall by the short ones, and there are new long separate coat models in everything from tweed to chiffon. The long black satin coat which has been so enormously popular all winter for a variety of purposes comes out in slightly diversified forms and minus the warm interlining about the shoulders and arms, and there are some audacious vivid models in strong green, cerise, purple, &c., which certainly back up the prophecies about the introduction of strong colors but at which most women would gasp in dismay.

One of these coats, pictured on this page, was really lovely if one could but divest one's mind of prejudices against conspicuous dress and view the garment only as a bit of color. The material was a soft satin in an exquisite vivid green on the lettuce tone. There was a black collar, out of consideration for the complexion of a possible wearer, and below the short wide kimono sleeves were great full puffs of unlined chiffon, caught in about the wrist, and of a delicious color between watermelon pink and tangerine.

Striking? Of course it was. But what

though Paris may forswear it, and there is a very pronounced demand for white and black effects in materials, so the shop folk say.

Especially are the sheer soft white and black striped materials being rapidly bought up, and we shall undoubtedly see many of the simple one piece frocks in these materials, which are now so attractive among the showings of simple and moderate priced models. At least one will have cause to be thankful that the combination is restful, cool and pretty and that an overdose of it will not be acutely painful.

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are among the popular black and white lightweight woollens, and though the black and white check, in one form or another, is used season after season, some very modish one piece frocks and tailor suits are brought out in these materials this season.

A particularly modish looking frock and coat costume brought over by a Fifth Avenue importer was in black and white stripe of the broken stripe design referred to above, and was decidedly Empire in lines. The simple narrow skirt rose almost to the bust line, where it disappeared under a black girdle, above which a plain bodice buttoned up to the collarless neck with ball buttons. Over this bodice fell a loose little bolero descending only a little way below the girdle, braided lightly in narrow black braid and brightened by Persian revers and cuffs.

There is no doubting that the bolero is to be much worn again. Nothing is prettier with the short waisted frocks which seem to be claiming first place among spring and summer modes, and the jaunty little coats consort well with any kind of a frock from wool tailor made to sheerest net and lace.

Some of the boleros hang open in front, with or without a waistcoat. Some drape across the bust, or button plainly. Some fall loosely over the top of a high girdle but button in the back. They may be straight around the lower edge and quite loose, like the black and white one already described, or they may be finished in deep points like the model in the central group, or they may round away sharply just under the bust, or they may finish below the bust line with a shirred cording and little frill, or a short peplum, in which case of course one can hardly call them boleros.

There will be quantities of the short little sacques—boleros or not, as one chooses to name them—and one fancies delightful things of the summer toilettes, in which quaint, sheer little Empire frocks of muslin or net may be topped by fanciful Directoire or Empire coats of gay, plain silk or brocade.

In fact one such costume is already well under way, and the frock of white chiffon with narrow black stripes at inch intervals is of the simplest, made very short waisted and slightly fluted, but held down in straight clinging lines and trimmed near the bottom by a wide band of fine white lace. The little bodice is draped surplice-wise with a band of lace filling in the V front up to French neck height. A very short loose coat is of a light fruity red silk, embroidered in a very fine black and white braid and with little turnback collar and cuffs of black.

An odd note is the narrow girdle of a strong French blue, which shows between the open fronts of the coat and harmonizes amazingly with the peculiar red.

Quaint mantelets and short draped sacques of various kinds are promised for the spring, and occasionally one puts in an appearance even now. The coat illustrated in the large picture is a case in point, and in black or color would be a useful little garment for spring and summer.

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a heavenly thing it would be to live in a land where such wonderful and beautiful colorings in garments were too common to be conspicuous. What virtue is there in sombre colored clothing save as sombre minded folk have made dull colored garments the rule and now are governed by the genie they have turned loose from the bottle? Vivid costumes on Fifth Avenue are in bad taste because they imply conspicuousness; but if only all the Fifth Avenue crowd went frankly robed in brilliant and beautiful lines how much more picturesque the crowd and the New York life would be!

To turn from yearnings for glory of the Solomon type to discussion of non-committal white, the one piece unlined white frocks of embroidered net, of etamine, of fine sheer lingerie stuffs, are being already picked up by girl graduates for commencement frocks and by girls who do not graduate this year, for the various school festivities.

A woman who makes rather a specialty of that sort of thing said that she had sold eighteen duplicates of one white net model for commencement purposes, and no two in the same school—all of which certainly argues an admirable forwardness on the part of the sweet girl graduate or her mother.

The model was charming but not extraordinarily individual save in the design of its embroidery and lace and the clever banding of the chiffon scarf girdle which encircled the high empire waist and was in the original model of brightest cerise, the only touch of color on the white. The straight frilled skirt was dragged down into narrow lines by the deep and heavy embroidery and inset lace around the bottom.

The bodice was of the usual Magyar or peasant type, with the open peasant sleeves, and embroidery bordered the sleeve and finished the round Dutch neck, running out over the shoulders and down a little way on the sleeve.

Considering the beauty and profusion of the hand embroidery the model was surprisingly inexpensive, yet it seemed rather high in price.

The one piece white serge frocks which are so plentiful and so charming should delight those same schoolgirls, as well as their elders, who will wear the frocks despite their undeniably youthful air. Sketches are given of three simple and chic little models of this class.

## CORPORATIONS NO NEW THING.

This Country Was Settled by Corporate Companies.

It is a fact, though people have forgotten it, that this country was colonized by corporations, says *Business*. It was set going by monopolies. The colony at Jamestown was planted in 1607 by the London Company, which was a corporation.

The colonists who landed at Plymouth Rock were sent out by the Plymouth Company, which was a corporation. The pioneers who settled Boston represented the Massachusetts Bay Company, which was a corporation. And so on down the list of American colonies.

Even after they cut loose from England the Americans created their State governments after the pattern of these British corporations. Whoever would understand fully a State and its history of organization must dig up the history of the Massachusetts Bay Company and the other corporations that flourished when George III. was King.

But these corporations died out, or were bought out, as the colonies grew large and independent, and for a time there were practically no corporations at all. In 1790, for instance, there were only three banking companies of any kind in the whole United States.

The first corporations were started in a blaze of patriotism after the war of 1812. At that time the United States was mainly a farming country. It bought its manufactured goods from England. Its clothes, its boots, its books, its tools, its furniture, all came from England.

This was an intolerable situation when the United States and the English were at war and so a tremendous effort was made to secure industrial independence. Stock companies were formed. English goods were boycotted. Factories were built. The first wave of business enterprise swept over the young country and wherever it went up sprang corporations.

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"More dry, dull, brittle and faded hair can be traced to too much moisture than to any other cause. A good shampoo powder will remove every particle of dust, oil and dandruff from the head, leaving the scalp clean, cool and refreshed and the hair glossy, soft and silky.

"To make a shampoo powder simply mix four ounces of borax with four ounces of orris root. Therax tones up the hair from root to tip, and you need use no other tonic."